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Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on US Supreme Court Ruling on State's DNA Case

June 3rd, 2013

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley released the following statement on the U.S. Supreme Court's ruling today on the State's DNA case, *Maryland v. King* - upholding the constitutionality of the Maryland DNA Collection Act, [a key piece of the O'Malley-Brown Administration's public safety agenda](#) in 2008. [The Governor recently signed a bill passed this session that repeals the sunset of the DNA law in Maryland:](#)

"Working together with our law enforcement partners, we have driven down violent crime in Maryland to 30-year lows. Today's Supreme Court ruling is important because it confirms an important weapon in our arsenal to fight violent crime in our State.

"DNA collection has been a very effective new tool in our efforts to save lives by reducing violent crime and resolving open investigations. I'd like to thank Attorney General Doug Gansler, Deputy Attorney General Kay Winfree, and the capable appellate attorneys of the Attorney General's Office of Maryland. Together, we will continue employing innovative and meaningful strategies to reduce crime, including using DNA, so that we can take violent offenders off the streets and protect our families and children."

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Governor Martin O'Malley Announces Additional Actions to Combat Gangs and Root out Corruptions at Baltimore City Detention Center

June 6th, 2013

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today announced actions already taken since the indictments at the Baltimore City Detention Center (BCDC), as well as a plan that the Department of Public Safety and Correctional Services (DPSCS) will enact moving forward to combat gangs and root out corruption at all Maryland prisons.

"Like all Marylanders, I am outraged by the criminal wrongdoing at the Baltimore City Detention Center," said Governor O'Malley. "Our coordinated efforts with federal, state and local law enforcement partners have helped combat gangs, reduce violence, and root out corruption. We understand there is more work to do – and we are working every day – to build the public's confidence in our prison system."

The chart below outlines the Administration's actions since the indictments at BCDC, and a plan moving forward to address corruption in Maryland's prisons and improve public safety through efforts to fight cell phones and contraband; leadership and correctional changes; and intelligence and security:

	Actions Taken Since Indictments	Actions Moving Forward
Efforts to Fight Cell Phones and Contraband	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revised front entrance search teams that rotate between facilities- Fingerprinting identity checks (Fast ID) on all visitors at BCDC to confirm identity• -Upgraded security cameras throughout BCDC Center to provide 45 hours of recording capability	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Install cell phone blocking technology at BCDC- Re-introduce bill to increase penalties for illegal cell phones• Purchase additional cell phone data extraction equipment to improve analysis of contraband cell phone intelligence• Deploy FastID fingerprinting for visitors Statewide
Leadership and Organizational Changes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Secretary moved office to BCDC- Began top to bottom personnel review	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Revise pre-employment character test to focus on ethics and integrity-

	at BCDC <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Fired Security Chief • Emphasized existing employee hotline for reporting misconduct and corruption • Augmenting supervisor training on disciplinary policies 	Create polygraph unit for CO applicants <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Expand background checks on applicants • Revise all policy and post orders at BCDC
Intelligence and Security	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Formed City Correctional Investigative unit with Baltimore City State's Attorney and Maryland State Police- Unifying Internal Investigations Unit (IIU) and intelligence by moving intelligence division to IIU. • Started randomized computer system for staff searches • Moved 31 high risk detainees from BCDC to other Departmental facilities 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Technological improvements to investigative tracking system- Hire 8 additional IIU detectives and 4 additional intelligence analysts to increase investigative powers • Investigate deploying full body scanners to each facility

Working together with local law enforcement partners, we've driven down violent crime to 30-year lows. Since taking office, the O'Malley-Brown Administration has taken critical steps toward combating gang violence and rooting out corruption in prisons:

- The Administration is taking action to purge corrupt correctional officers. The average annual number of correctional officers terminated during the O'Malley-Brown Administration is nearly 50 percent higher than under the previous administration.
- In 2011, officials formed the Maryland Joint Prison Task Force, a partnership between federal, state, and local law enforcement personnel focused on combating gangs and rooting out corruption in Maryland correctional institutions. Rod Rosenstein, the U.S. Attorney for the District of Maryland, says "Everybody in the task force anticipated it would result in the prosecution of a significant number of correctional officers." (Baltimore Sun, April 30, 2013)
- In 2012, DPSCS captured 77 percent more cell phones than it did in 2007 through the use of K9s and other strategies.
- In 2009, DPSCS invested in a cellular forensics lab to extract intelligence from contraband phones, and hired dedicated a cell phone investigator to build prosecutions against people caught with illegal cell phones. Since then, 1,038 charges have been filed, with 618 adjudications netting a 59 percent guilty rate.
- Since FY 2007, inmate-on-staff serious assaults have been driven down 65 percent, and inmate-on-inmate serious assaults have been driven down 47 percent.
- In 2007, under Secretary Maynard's leadership, the Administration closed the House of Correction and began an effort to combat illegal gang activity.
- In 2007, DPSCS led a statewide gang and intelligence sharing initiative, and in 2008,

formalized the Central Gang Unit to share gang information with local, state, and federal authorities.

- Since 2009, DPSCS has employed a full-time gang intelligence analyst to track gang activity. We established the Automated Gang Intel Database, and have identified almost 7,400 gang members since 2007.

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Governor Martin O'Malley Appoints Abigail Ross Hopper, Esq. Director of the Maryland Energy Administration

June 12th, 2013

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today announced Abigail Ross Hopper as the Director of the Maryland Energy Administration (MEA). Ms. Hopper has served as Governor O'Malley's Energy Advisor since 2010 and as Acting Director of MEA since 2012. Ms. Hopper will also continue on in her role as Energy Advisor to Governor O'Malley.

"We are very fortunate to have someone with Ms. Hopper's depth of knowledge and experience in the energy sector take the official helm at MEA. Maryland is a national leader in clean energy and energy efficiency and we are confident that Ms. Hopper will continue to push our State forward," said Governor O'Malley. "Ms. Hopper has displayed exemplary leadership as Acting Director of MEA and my Energy Advisor. She was absolutely pivotal in ensuring the passage of the Maryland Offshore Wind Energy Act of 2013 and has overseen the successful launch of numerous programs during her time at MEA."

"Governor O'Malley is committed to ensuring Marylanders benefit from clean, reliable energy that saves money, protects the environment, and remains operational in the face of major storms," Ms. Hopper said. "I'm excited to continue serving the citizens of our State as a member of his team."

During her tenure as Acting Director of MEA, Ms. Hopper has overseen a suite of programs designed to achieve three of the [Governor's sixteen strategic policy goals](#): increasing renewable energy production, reducing energy consumption, and reducing greenhouse gas emissions. Ms. Hopper also presided over the launch of several new programs, including Smart Energy Communities, which provides funding to local governments that adopt cutting-edge clean energy policies. Ms. Hopper has also focused significant resources on improving the resiliency of the State's electric utilities in the face of major storms. Thanks largely to her leadership, the State is taking concrete actions towards ensuring a clean and reliable energy future.

As Energy Advisor to the Governor, Ms. Hopper regularly advises the Governor on achieving the State's aggressive renewable energy and energy efficiency goals. She also interfaces with businesses in the energy space, including the State's utilities, as well as coordinating the interaction between the Governor's Office and both the Public Service Commission (PSC) and MEA.

Prior to her appointment by the Governor, Ms. Hopper spent three years as Deputy General Counsel with the PSC. In this role she advised PSC Commissioners on a broad range of legal matters arising from their duties as utility regulators.

Before embarking on a career in public service, Ms. Hopper spent over 9 years in private practice where she specialized in complex litigation and corporate law. She represented publicly and privately held corporations in connection with mergers and acquisitions, and has

counseled numerous venture capital and investment banking firms in connection with multi-million dollar equity offerings. While in private practice, Ms. Hopper worked for the Washington-based international firm of Hogan and Hartson, LLP (now Hogan Lovells), and the Greenbelt Maryland-based firm of Joseph, Greenwald & Laake.

Abigail Hopper graduated Cum Laude from the University of Maryland School of Law in 1999, after obtaining her B.A. from Dartmouth College in 1993.

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Governor Martin O'Malley Highlights EARN Job Training Initiative

June 12th, 2013

New initiative will allow employers to lead workforce training programs designed to create jobs and expand opportunity

BALTIMORE, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today, joined by Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake and other officials, visited the Maritime Applied Physics Corporation (MAPCorp) to highlight the EARN (Employment Advancement Right Now) job training initiative – a joint effort with members of the Maryland General Assembly to create industry-led regional job creation and workforce development partnerships that help to identify common workforce needs for high-demand occupations such as construction, traditional and advanced manufacturing, cyber security, and health care; and develop and implement education or training strategies to address those shortages.

"In Maryland, we've built up one of the most highly-skilled workforces in the nation," said Governor O'Malley. "Companies like MAPCorp are doing the cutting-edge advanced manufacturing that we need to grow and strengthen our economy. The EARN job training initiative will help Maryland workers develop the skills they need for today's high-demand industries. I'd like to thank Senator Kathy Klausmeier, Delegate John Olszewski, Delegate Keiffer Mitchell, and Delegate Luke Clippinger for all of their incredible work on this bill last session – because of their hard work we are able to provide this investment to ensure that Maryland companies will compete and win in the New Economy."

MAPCorp is an advanced manufacturing company that can grow and expand in Maryland with a highly-skilled workforce. The company focuses on engineering, prototyping, and production for government and commercial sponsors.

"As one of Maryland's manufacturers, we want to thank the Governor and the Legislature for passing the EARN legislation. There are large changes coming in manufacturing with the growing use of automation in all parts of the product creation cycle," said MAPCorp CEO, Mark Rice. "Those states with a skilled workforce and progressive training programs will have a significant advantage as these automation technologies are implemented in the manufacturing sector. Today's manufacturing jobs are well paid with a constant need to refresh knowledge and skills."

"Creating opportunities for Baltimore City residents is essential to achieving our goal of growing by 10,000 families in the next ten years. EARN will help provide job training for local residents, putting them in advantageous positions to compete for good 21st century jobs that lead to stable careers," said Mayor Rawlings-Blake. "And since EARN is an industry-driven initiative, the trainings will certainly address the most important components for successful job matching."

The EARN initiative will be managed by the Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation (DLLR), and will encourage regional workforce training collaborations among businesses,

non-profits, institutions of higher education, community college, local workforce investment boards, local governments, and various types of workforce training providers. Supported by the Maryland Chamber of Commerce, EARN is a proven strategy for providing Maryland's employers with skilled workers. Among similar initiatives around the country, this approach led to skills advancement, career building opportunities and increased wages. In a survey of employers participating in sector partnerships in Massachusetts, 41 percent reported reduced turnover; 19 percent reported less rework on the job; 23 percent reported fewer customer complaints; and 100 percent of the companies said that participation in a sector partnership was valuable.

Sector strategies are among the few interventions with a growing body of evidence showing improved employment opportunities and wages for workers as well as increased productivity and other positive outcomes for employers. An estimated 1,000 regional sector partnerships are operating across the country. More than 25 states are exploring or implementing sector strategies as a way to address industry needs through education and training programs.

Grants will be awarded on a competitive basis through an application process. DLLR will release the EARN grant solicitations in the fall of 2013. Grant awards will be announced within one year from that date. For more information on the grant process, please visit www.earn.maryland.gov.

The O'Malley-Brown Administration is making the better choices that are delivering better results to create jobs, expand opportunity, and strengthen Maryland's middle class. In the first quarter of this year, Maryland created jobs at the fastest rate in our region. Over the past 12 months, Maryland businesses have created 31,200 new jobs. Together, we've driven Maryland's unemployment rate down to 6.5 percent, its lowest level in more than four years – 10 percent below the national average.

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Governor Martin O'Malley to Lead European Trade and Investment Mission

June 14th, 2013

Governor to attend Paris Air Show; address business leaders in Ireland

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley will depart tomorrow for a trade and investment mission to Paris, France and Ireland as part of a continuing strategy to strengthen economic ties, help Maryland businesses market themselves to international customers, and promote the State of Maryland to businesses abroad in an ever-changing 21st century global economy.

In Paris, the Governor will be joined by Maryland Department of Business and Economic Development (DBED) Secretary Dominick E. Murray and a [delegation](#) of Maryland companies at the world's largest aerospace industry event, the International Paris Air Show at Le Bourget Airport. The show,—celebrating its 50th anniversary this year—kicks off June 17 and runs through June 23. Maryland will have a 60 square-meter booth that will include room for participating Maryland companies. In addition to numerous meetings with aerospace giants like Lockheed Martin, BAE and Thales, Governor O'Malley will attend a reception hosted by the U.S. Ambassador to France Charles Rivkin and witness the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding with France's Calais region. Click [here](#) for the Governor's Paris public itinerary.

"The aerospace and defense sectors are enormously important to Maryland – we have 15 of America's top 20 aerospace companies and 70 of the top 100 defense contractors in Maryland and these sectors support more than 140,000 direct jobs here," **Governor O'Malley said**. "The Paris Air Show is truly a unique opportunity to help our Maryland companies explore new opportunities for investment and trade, and to encourage leaders from many of the world's largest aerospace companies to choose Maryland as the ideal place to establish operations."

At the Paris Air Show, Maryland companies exhibiting include: SURVICE Engineering in Belcamp; Sullivan Products in Baltimore City; Gould Technology in Millersville; Marine Air Supply in Frederick; Temple Allen in Rockville; Man & Machine in Landover; and Industrial Machine Tool in Galena. A number of the companies received a \$10,000 ExportMD grant from DBED to help offset the cost of the show.

"I am proud to join Governor O'Malley and the Maryland delegation on this mission. The Paris Air show is an important event that provides great opportunities for companies like mine to showcase our new product – an enhanced version of the Nikon coherent laser radar (CLR) inspection technology in support of an Air Force research grant," **said Jeff Foulk, CEO of SURVICE Engineering in Belcamp**. "It will also grow our international sales and services by providing increased exposure at one of the largest aerospace events of the year."

"The Paris Air show provides Gould with a platform to showcase its solutions for our customers and potential customers," **Gould Technology General Manager Dr. Saeed Pilevar** stated. "Our participation in the show puts us in front of the decision makers and allows us to highlight our advantages in capacity, reliability, performance, and flexibility."

"It is true that the digital age allows us to go from quote to delivery across the oceans without even picking up the phone, but there is still no substitution for meeting existing and perspective clients in person," **said Sullivan Products President James Hudson**. "With the proliferation of UAV systems throughout the world, the Paris Air Show represents the ideal stage for us to present our Power System products to an audience that we could not hope to reach as quickly or effectively any other way."

Maryland remains a leader in the aerospace and defense industries. In addition to its highly-skilled workforce and critical mass of companies, Maryland offers the benefit of close proximity to many federal agencies, like the National Institute of Standards and Technology, the National Security Agency, National Institutes of Health, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, Patuxent River Naval Air Station and Aberdeen Proving Ground. NASA's second largest spending operation with some 12,000 scientists, engineers and support personnel is Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt.

Maryland is also home to 15 of the top 20 aerospace companies in the U.S., including Lockheed Martin, Northrop Grumman's Electronic Systems Division, BAE Systems, ARINC, and SAIC. In addition, the State has 70 of the top defense contractors, making it one of the world's most competitive and extensive aerospace and defense clusters.

The Governor will also travel to Ireland, where he will lead a [delegation](#) of Maryland business, education and tourism officials on a three-day mission to Dublin. The Governor will meet with Irish Prime Minister Edna Kenny while attending the 2013 Worldwide Ireland Funds Conference Gala Dinner. He will also address the Dublin Chamber of Commerce and host a roundtable with the Chamber's members, who are interested in Maryland's StateStat as a model for accountability and transparency, measuring progress, and delivering results. The Governor will also meet with the Michael Smurfit Graduate School of Business, part of the University College Dublin, where he will talk about Maryland's Innovation Economy. Click [here](#) for the Governor's Ireland public itinerary.

"Maryland and Ireland share a common bond of investing in our innovation-driven economies and creating the jobs and opportunities of tomorrow in areas like biotech and renewable energy," **said Governor O'Malley**. "I look forward to meeting with Prime Minister Kenny, who shares Maryland's strong commitment to education and workforce training, discussing StateStat as a model for performance management with the Dublin Chamber, and promoting Maryland as a great U.S. gateway for Irish companies."

For the delegation list for Paris, click [here](#). Click [here](#) for the Governor's Paris public itinerary.

For the delegation list for Ireland, click [here](#). Click [here](#) for the Governor's Ireland public itinerary.

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Governor O'Malley and Mayor Rawlings-Blake Announce Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners Appointments

June 18th, 2013

ANNAPOLIS, MD - Governor Martin O'Malley today, in conjunction with Baltimore City Mayor Stephanie Rawlings-Blake, announced the appointments of Cheryl A. Casciani and Peter Kannam to the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners. Tina Marie Hike-Hubbard and Shanaysha Marie Sauls, Ph.D. will also be reappointed to the Board.

"I am pleased to join Mayor Rawlings-Blake in announcing the appointment of these very talented individuals to the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners," said Governor O'Malley. "I am confident that they each possess the skill and leadership necessary to ensure that every child in Baltimore City receives the quality public education they deserve."

"Quality public education is the cornerstone of a growing city," Mayor Rawlings-Blake said. "I am pleased to join Governor O'Malley in announcing these important new appointments to the Baltimore City Board of School Commissioners. The board will play an important role in helping to implement our historic \$1.1 billion effort to modernize our school buildings and in selecting a new permanent schools CEO. I'm confident that these appointments will help our school system meet the challenges ahead and take advantage of future opportunities."

Cheryl A. Casciani, a graduate of the Yale School of Organization and Management is currently the Director of Neighborhood Sustainability at the Baltimore Community Foundation. Casciani volunteers as the Chair of the Baltimore Commission on Sustainability. Under her leadership, student-led teams in over 80 City Schools implemented 'green' projects that included energy conservation, waste management, storm water management and schoolyard gardening. Her early career in the petroleum industry provided an opportunity to apply data analysis to decision making and to develop negotiations skills. As a result of her volunteer work teaching economics in a Texas high school, she pursued her interest in education policy. While earning a Master's Degree in Business Administration from Yale University, she did an independent study on the Teacher Preparation Program at Yale. In 1982, Casciani graduated *cum laude* from the University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelor's degree from the Wharton School of Business and a Bachelor of Applied Science. Her appointment is effective July 1, 2013.

Peter Kannam is the Managing Partner of America Achieves where he is responsible for the Proof Points Division, which highlights promising practices in public education and supports leaders in making these practices more commonplace. He began his career in Maryland as a teacher at Lombard Middle School in Baltimore. Since then, he has been the Executive Director of Teach For America and New Leaders for New Schools where he focused his career on building a human capital pipeline for students. In his current position with America Achieves, he works to identify practices and policies designed to support an entire system that will deliver better outcomes for students. Mr. Kannam and his wife have three sons in Baltimore City

Schools. His appointment is effective immediately.

Tina Marie Hike-Hubbard and Shanaysha Marie Sauls, Ph.D. were first appointed in 2010. Ms. Hike-Hubbard has focused on budgets, data and pre-kindergarten for all students. As the Director of Education at Enterprise Community Partners, she developed a model for the integration of community development and school reform. Dr. Sauls has focused her efforts on school facilities and improving special education achievement. She is the Managing Associate for the Art and Science Group, LLC working with colleges and universities to address their enrollment and fundraising objectives. These reappointments are effective July 1, 2013.

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Governor O'Malley Addresses Irish Business Leaders, Hosts Roundtable on Maryland's StateStat in Dublin

June 20th, 2013

ANNAPOLIS, MD – As part of a five-day European economic development mission, Governor Martin O'Malley today met with the Dublin Chamber of Commerce, where he addressed Irish business leaders and gave a presentation on Maryland's StateStat as a model for performance measurement in government. At the Dublin Chamber, – the largest chamber of commerce in Ireland with more than 1,300 members – the Governor discussed the strengths that Maryland and Ireland share in innovation, and encouraged Irish companies to choose Maryland as an ideal U.S. gateway to do business.

The Governor's presentation focused on [Maryland's StateStat](#) as a model for accountability and transparency, a means of measuring progress, and an effective and efficient way of delivering results in government. He spoke to the 'Activating Dublin' steering committee, which works to engage businesses, government and the Dublin City Council to launch a number initiatives aimed at generating sustainable business growth and employment. Governor O'Malley previously addressed the Dublin Chamber in 2007, when he gave a presentation on CitiStat as Mayor of Baltimore City.

"The Dublin Chamber is an excellent forum to promote Maryland's Innovation Economy and our highly-skilled and educated workforce as the key to forming lasting economic and trade partnerships between Ireland and Maryland," **said Governor O'Malley**. "I'd like to applaud the Chamber's leadership for their proactive approach to economic development and their willingness to explore accountability and transparency in government. Whether it's improving our infrastructure; investing in our workforce; promoting our competitiveness or improving the conditions that allow businesses to grow and create jobs, we share these common goals on both sides of the Atlantic. With greater collaboration than ever before, we can use technology to create common platforms and take action to advance the common good of progress and prosperity for all."

"In 2007, Governor O'Malley delivered an inspiring keynote address at our annual dinner where he spoke about the positive transformation of the State of Maryland through the power of good government," **said Gina Quin, Chief Executive of the Dublin Chamber of Commerce**. "This resonates with what Dublin Chamber is trying to achieve through our 'Activating Dublin' program which has a vision to make Dublin a great place to work, visit and live. We are looking forward to harnessing the experience and expertise of Governor O'Malley to help make this vision a reality."

Governor O'Malley started his day in Dublin with a visit to the Michael Smurfit Graduate School of Business, part of the University College Dublin, where he addressed more than 175 students, faculty and business leaders on Maryland's thriving Innovation Economy. He also witnessed the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the University of Maryland (UMD) and the University College Dublin (UCD), both of which are members of the

leading global network of research universities Universitas 21. The MOU, which was signed by UMD's Dr. Patrick O'Shea and UCD's Professor Ciaran O'Hogartaigh, formalized a broad program of student and faculty exchanges.

"This partnership between two leading, globally-engaged universities promises economic and educational benefits for Maryland, the nation and beyond," **said Dr. O'Shea, UMD's Vice President for Research**. "As we strengthen our global ties, we keep Maryland plugged into some of the most advanced research and education in the world, and help prepare a new generation for global leadership."

The Governor also met with executives of the Kingspan Group, which is based in Cavan, Ireland but has its North American headquarters in Jessup, Md. The company manufactures building products, including insulated panels, insulation boards, raised access floors and steel frames, and also offers environmental and renewable fuel and water storage solutions and hot water systems. At its Maryland facility, it has more than 80 employees.

"Kingspan's North American headquarters are based in Jessup and have been for over a decade," **said Kingspan CEO Gene Murtagh**. "We find Maryland has a very positive business environment and we support the State's proactive approach to energy efficient buildings which is central to our product portfolio and growth strategy in North America."

Yesterday, Governor O'Malley met with Ireland's Minister for Communications, Energy and Natural Resources Pat Rabbitte and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade Eamon Gilmore. The Governor also delivered a keynote address at the Iveagh House to business leaders and members of the Kennedy family to mark the 50th anniversary of President John F. Kennedy's visit to Ireland.

Tomorrow, Governor O'Malley will meet with the Irish Prime Minister Edna Kenny while attending the 2013 Worldwide Ireland Funds Conference. He will also attend a presentation on Ireland's progress in the renewable energy/smart grid field and integration of offshore wind by EirGrid, a leading Irish energy company.

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Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on Preliminary May Jobs Report

June 21st, 2013

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today released the following statement on the U.S. Department of Labor's release of preliminary employment data for the month of May:

"Last month, 4,600 new jobs were created in Maryland. As a state, we have now recovered over 95 percent of the jobs lost during the Bush recession – another step toward our goal to recover every job we've lost during the downturn by the end of 2014.

"In Maryland, we continue to target our skills and investment pipeline to bolster the life sciences, biotech, cyber security, space and aerospace, global trade, and advanced manufacturing because we know that to move forward in our jobs recovery, we must make the better choices to grow our Innovation Economy. Though this jobs report is promising, there are still too many moms and dads out of work. That's why together, we must continue to give our highly-skilled and educated workforce the tools they need to compete and expand the ranks of our diverse and upwardly-mobile middle class."

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Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on President Obama's Climate Action Plan

June 25th, 2013

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley today released the following statement on President Obama's climate action plan:

"Climate change is real. We in Maryland applaud the vision that President Obama offered to the American people today. By targeting the number one source of greenhouse gas emissions, President Obama is moving the United States in the right direction toward strongly emphasizing renewable energy, improving air quality for our vulnerable populations, and mitigating the effects of severe weather events and flooding on our coastlines and low-lying areas. We are committed to partnering with him so that together, we can make the better choices these times demand."

"For the past six years, the people of Maryland have been taking strong actions to reduce our carbon footprint, improve air quality, invest in clean technology and create green jobs. We have set some of the most ambitious goals in the nation for reducing greenhouse emissions advancing cleaner, renewable energy, protecting the health of our children and elderly, rebuilding our shorelines and creating green jobs. We have advanced off-shore wind, on-shore wind, and solar energy. We partnered with eight other Mid-Atlantic and Northeastern states on RGGI, the nation's first cap-and-trade auction of greenhouse emissions. We reduced harmful pollutants in our air by more than 80 percent. We passed landmark clean cars legislation. We created a sustainable communities tax credit. We also created incentives to help homeowners and businesses utilize clean energy."

"By making these better choices we are delivering better results: Maryland's workforce has more green jobs per capita than any state in the Mid-Atlantic region. The climate-related actions we are taking are projected to create 37,000 additional jobs and pump \$1.6 billion into Maryland's economy."

"Climate change is not an ideological issue any more than gravity is: it's not about whether we move left or right, but whether we move forward or back. As severe weather events continue to grow in size and impact, the costs of inaction would grow exponentially. In Maryland, we are moving forward and taking action by creating green jobs and protecting our land, water, air and public health. Now is the time to commit to reducing greenhouse gas emissions in Maryland, the United States and around the world."

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Statement from Governor Martin O'Malley on US Supreme Court Rulings on Defense of Marriage Act and Prop 8

June 26th, 2013

ANNAPOLIS, MD – Governor Martin O'Malley released the following statement on today's U.S. Supreme Court rulings on the Defense of Marriage Act and Prop 8:

"Today, the United States Supreme Court ruled that the Defense of Marriage Act is unconstitutional as applied to states that recognize equal marriage rights."

"This ruling is a powerful step forward for those who live in states like Maryland. But the Court's decisions make clear that there is still more work to do as a nation to achieve greater respect for the equal rights and human dignity of all."

"As Marylanders, and as Americans, we ultimately all want the same thing for our children: to live in a loving, stable, committed home protected equally under the law."

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